

Torrance Herald

Co-Publishers
KING WILLIAMS - GLENN W. PFEIL
REID L. BUNDY - Managing Editor

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Welcome to Torrance

One of the last strongholds of citizen government—home rule—will be examined here closely by more than a hundred representatives of Los Angeles County cities Friday as they meet to discuss the topic, "Home Rule or What?"

Friday's meeting in Torrance will be the second annual meeting of the Independent Cities of Los Angeles County whose membership now includes 30 city governments.

A number of outstanding speakers have been scheduled to take part in Friday's discussions, including Lt. Gov. Glenn M. Anderson and his rival for the office, Mayor George Christopher of San Francisco; Frederick W. Sharp, chief administrative officer of Pomona who has become an outspoken foe of federal aid programs; and Joe Quinn, assistant to Mayor Sam Yorty of Los Angeles.

The subject of home rule is one which needs thorough study. It is only at home—in the city, the school district, or special district—that the people retain some control over how their money is spent. It is at this level that people have the most direct voice in the affairs of their governments, and it should be protected.

We welcome our visitors to Torrance and pray they enjoy the hospitality and facilities of our city.

At the same time, we pray that in their discussions and deliberations they not forget Mr. Citizen. He's paying the bill.

An Unqualified Champ

With or without Mr. Frick's asterisk, the Dodgers' Maury Wills is a champion and this year's baseball hero. Any way you figure it. Maury beat the venerable Ty Cobb's base-stealing record hands down—or rather, stomach down, because that's the way he did it.

He beat the Georgia Peach's record for 154 games, he beat it for 156 games, and ere the season is over Sunday, he will have set a new mark for future base-batters to strive for.

Our hats off to the fleet-footed Mr. Wills. He has done more to put a little pep into baseball this year than all the pontifical pronouncements from the office of the commissioner in the last generation.

Maury is a champ—long may he reign.

The Russian Policy

The Russians try most anything
From a blistering bluff to a roaring fling.
But the most effective single threat,
Is the no budge attitude of the Soviet.

We go to meetings here and there,
Hoping some common ground to share—
But we always find to our regret
The no budge attitude of the Soviet.

The Congo surely is a mess—
Here agents communism stress;
Negotiations fail when set
Because of the no budge attitude of the Soviet.

In Berlin, as now you may recall,
Stands an anti-freedom wall—
And when we kick we get the "nyet"
From the no budge attitude of the Soviet.

Laos, Cuba and South Vietnam
Are somewhat hot under Khrushchev's thumb;
When we complain, we only get
The no budge attitude of the Soviet.

The Czechs, Hungarians and Polish too
Have felt the sting of the Russian crew.
There's no relief for them—they're set
For the no budge attitude of the Soviet.

We know all this—and yet it's true
How strange is the policy we pursue;
We should know better and not forget
This no budge attitude of the Soviet.

We should let them squirm and guess and fuss,
And let them come running to us —
Until they are willing to reject
This no budge attitude of the Soviet.

We should not trade the things we make
Because we have so much at stake—
They'll only gloat but still inject
The no budge attitude of the Soviet.

We should call their bluff and better still
Deal out to them pill after pill,
Until they're willing and without a fret
End the no budge policy of the Soviet.

—Councilman Ross A. Sciarrotta, Sr.

Morning Report:

That was a terrible beating the President took in the Massachusetts primary. His kid brother won the Democratic senatorial nomination by 2 to 1. No matter what the facts are, millions are convinced that Ted was the victor only because of presidential prestige and pull. The White House has all the senators it needs. If Ted really wants to help his brother, he should have run for the House of Representatives from Alabama. Still don't count the President out yet. Jack can still save his bacon. By making sure Ted loses in the November finals—2 to 1.

Abe Mellinkoff

You Shouldn't Have Dragged Him In—



James Dorais

California Farmers Get Taste of Federal Power

There are many peripheral arguments in the perennial Congressional battle over Federal aid to education, but one issue is central to the discussion. Can any program ever accept Federal financing without relinquishing local control?

Those Californians who still argue that Federal aid to education is possible without loss of local control should take a good hard look at what is happening in the latest round in the decades-old feud between California farmers and the Federal Bureau of Reclamation.

The magazine "California Farmer" reports that several thousand farmers in a 1.6-million acre area from Red Bluff to Tracy are currently threatened with the breakup of their farms by the sudden decision of the Bureau after nearly 20 years of inaction, to

enforce the 160-acre limitation on Sacramento Valley lands receiving supplemental Central Valley Project water. These lands had water rights along the Sacramento River long before the Central Valley Project was built. Construction of Shasta Dam provided an additional flow, during the summer months, which has made possible an increased development of irrigated crops. This supplemental water accounts for about one-fourth of the total water use.

California farmers wouldn't be in their present bind if the State had gone ahead with the construction of the Central Valley Project in the 30s as it had originally planned. When the project proved too much for the State's credit, the Federal government was asked to take over.

FROM the MAILBOX

One City Crew Outdoes Another

Sometimes it makes me laugh to see that one department of the city doesn't know what the other is doing, and other times it makes me cry because I know I'm paying for it.

About a week or so ago, some department of the city—I don't know which—painted the "SLO SCHOOL XING" signs on the street, which is all and good because school just started and you should remind motorists to be more careful.

But now, another department is putting new blacktop on all the streets in this neighborhood (which it doesn't need just to make it look nice.) I think, why don't they go and fix some street that needs fixing—but that is a different matter.

STANLEY COHEN

ROYCE BRIER

Fidel Has a Red Mess; Not Keen for Showdown

In ancient and medieval days no one questioned right and reason when a powerful nation invaded and occupied a weak one. Thus were empires built.

But the concept of self-government has a concomitant in the concept of self-determination. If the people were fit to govern themselves, then a people had the right to govern it. In 300 Western years this ideal has so well advanced that even a tyrant like Hitler was compelled to give it lip service.

The Monroe Doctrine (1823) was an undertaking to apply the principle to an isolated geographical group of weak peoples against the greedy designs of the European powers. But in international morality, the Doctrine applies equally to the United States.

When Spain lost her American colonies she retained Cuba. Decades of misrule

Automatically, this meant that only ownerships of 160 acres or less could receive project water; lands in excess of 160 acres were termed "excess lands" and in order to receive water, owners are required to sign contracts guaranteeing to sell within 10 years.

Water districts in other areas were forced to sign such contracts some years ago; the requirement now has been made applicable to water districts in the Sacramento Valley.

Farmers have the choice of breaking up their lands into Tobacco Road units or refusing project water and going back to raising unirrigated crops already in surplus supply which cost the taxpayer millions each year in subsidies.

On the 160-acre question, the Federal government has never seen fit to update its thinking since 1902. Anyone sincerely interested in education should ponder what effect monolithic control by the Federal government could have on the future of the public schools in California.

And two weeks ago President Kennedy lost the last opportunity, short of war, to contain the crisis when he practically called the Monroe doctrine dead, and opened the door for one of Russia's greatest propaganda victories in this hemisphere.

As it stands now... Russia is free to fortify Cuba with "defensive weapons," whatever that means, without U.S. interference.

President Kennedy did not define what "defensive weapons" consist of... or how we are going to tell when a gun becomes defensive or offensive... or how we know that "offensive weapons" are not present in Cuba today.

But the worst damage to us is not in weapons, for we can destroy everything that Castro can put on the island in one attack.

The damage is in our prestige and the burial of the Monroe doctrine. Perhaps before long we shall be obliged to negotiate with Khrushchev on Cuba. The price will be high, probably Berlin.

This is what he wants. He will deal with us and gesture withdrawal from Cuba. But will he? Cuba will remain Communist and the arms will remain with it. In the meantime we have lost face in Latin America and in the world. Cuba has become the "Berlin Wall" of the hemisphere... only far worse.

AFTER HOURS By John Morley

Soviet Arming of Cuba Called Answer to U.S.

HOUSTON — The last time I was in Moscow a Kremlin official told me that the Soviet Union will get a foothold near the United States to show us what it is like to have an enemy breathing down your neck.

"We have you," he said, "in Norway, Berlin, Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Thailand, Formosa, Korea, Japan, Alaska... and you surround us with bases almost all along the entire Soviet frontier."

"When you come to think of it," he continued, "we have nothing surrounding you... but we will."

It was apparent to me then... and it is a fact of life now... that the Soviet foothold is Cuba.

The foothold was made possible by the most fantastic diplomatic miscalculations in U.S. foreign policy, second only to those of Yalta and Potsdam, where, among other things, we allowed Stalin to sell us on the idea of surrounding Berlin with 110 miles of Communist zone, without any Soviet-signed agreements on free access to the city.

As President Kennedy said in his recent press conference, we can and will invade Cuba when it becomes a threat to our security, regardless of Soviet threats of nuclear war.

This we can do.

In such an eventuality Khrushchev in all probability will squirm out of his commitment to aid Cuba, for practical reasons.

Russia cannot defend Cuba 7,000 miles from its frontier... and it is not likely that she would launch a nuclear war over Cuba.

If Khrushchev was planning a nuclear war, his best bet would be Berlin, Iran, Turkey or Formosa, where we are extended thousands of miles from our major supply base.

Khrushchev's game in Cuba, in our opinion, involves a show of muscle, effective propaganda, and to "show us what it is like to have an enemy breathing down our necks."

Khrushchev has other reasons. After the propaganda victory and blackmail, primarily for Caribbean and Latin American consumption, he can bargain Cuba for, say, Berlin, Formosa, Iran... or for some of our bases nearest the Soviet frontier.

Either way he wins. If we refuse, he can still use Cuba as a base for communist spies, for infiltration into Latin America, for a constant irritation to keep our attention from other steals around the world.

Even if we bargained... he can still secretly hold Cuba as a Communist base of operations.

Probably the worst foreign policy mistake of this administration is Cuba. Our part in the failure of the Cuban invasion started the deterioration.

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